(ii) Improve production technology of shipyards such as advance outfitting, modular construction, etc.

(iii) Augmentation of production facilities to optimise capacity utilization of shipyards.

(iv) More effective production planning and control system.

(v) Efforts to secure further orders for ships for better capacity utilization.

Effect of High lending Rates on Small Scale Industry

2668. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high lending rates of commercial banks have adversely affected the small scale industrial units and the building industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for providing adequate relief to these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that the raising of lending rates is a measure aimed at bringing about greater financial discipline, improved productivity and control of inventory build-up. With the macro-economic imbalance in the economy, which is reflected in a large budget deficit, excess liquidity in the economy and a large balance of Payments current account deficit, it became imperative to take remedial measures to rectify the imbalance, Raising of lending rates is one such anti-inflationary measure, Since the interest rates have recently been revised with impact on SSI units 9,1991, it is a little early to asses the impact on SSI units and the building industry.

(c) In view of the above, does not arise.

Opening of new Sale Centres of NTC in Orissa

2669. SHRI K.PRADHANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be please to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has any proposal to open new sale centres in Orissa during the current financial year,

(b) if so, whether the NTC has made any market study in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details there of.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Recovery of Excise Duty

2670. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of excise duty recovered during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of industrial units which have paid it voluntarily and the number of those units which made payment on the orders of the Courts;

(c) whether there are some industrial units which have not paid excise duty despite the orders of the courts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI REMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The amount of central excise duty recovered was as under:-

(R.s in crores)

(Actuals)

1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
18841	22406	24356 (Provisional)

(b) Under the Self Removal Procedure, assesses work out the central excise duty payable and debt it to their Ledger Account. In respect of units working under Physical Control, prior to clearance of goods on assessment by central excise officials, central excise duty is paid voluntarily. Thus, in all cases duty is paid voluntarily at the time of the clearance. When ever there is any dispute regarding the correct amount of duty payable, the duty is paid provisionally and difference of duty, if any, is paid after the dispute is finally settled.

(c) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Recruitment Centres In Orissa

2671. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up recruitment centres for Defence Services in Orissa;

(b) if so, the places selected for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) the foilowing Recruiting Centres are presently operating in Orrisa:-

(i) Branch Recruiting Office, Cuttack.

(ii) Branch Recruiting Office, Sambalpur.

(iii) Branch Recruiting Office, Behrampur.

(iv) Airmen Selection Centre, Bhubaneshwar.

(v) Naval Recruiting Establishment, INS, Chilka.

Keeping in view the Recruitable Male Population (RMP) and the geographical areas of the State these five Recruiting Centres are considered adequate.

[*English*]

Maintenance of Foreign Currency Accounts by Exporters

2672. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has decided to permit exporters with a satisfactory track record to maintain foreign currency account with the State Bank of India and foreign banks operating In India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?